

House Watch

A summary of today's House actions;
published daily when the House is in session.



2/21/08

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

[HB 5021](#)

(Angerer)

The bill would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code. The code prohibits equipping a motor vehicle with a television viewer or screen that can be viewed by or reflected to the driver, but it contains exceptions. The bill would rewrite and expand those exceptions. In general, the bill would permit video displays intended "to enhance or supplement the driver's view." Further, it would permit certain monitors in police vehicles, fire vehicles, and ambulances.

- The House concurred in the Senate amendments [RC 81: 108 yes, 0 no]

FINAL PASSAGE

[SB 1061](#)

(Sanborn)

Senate Bill 1061 would add Chapter 46 (Captive Insurance Companies), Chapter 47 (Special Purpose Financial Captives), and Chapter 48 (Protected Cell Insurance Companies) to the Insurance Code.

- V. Smith substitute H-1 was adopted
- SB 1061 advanced to 3rd Reading
- SB 1061 was passed [RC 79: 107 yes, 0 no]
- IE was ordered

SB 1062**(Sanborn)**

Senate Bill 1062 would amend the Michigan Business Tax Act to exempt an insurance company authorized under Chapter 46 or 47 of the Insurance Code from the Act and from the tax it imposes on insurance companies (1.25% of gross direct premiums written on property or risk located or residing in this State). Senate Bill 1062 is tie-barred to Senate Bill 1061.

- SB 1062 advanced to 3rd Reading
- SB 1062 was passed [RC 80: 108 yes, 0 no]
- IE was ordered

SB 530**(Allen)**

The bill would amend Part 821 (Snowmobiles) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to revise provisions pertaining to noise emission from a snowmobile, and limit certain provisions pertaining to snowmobile trails to those located on or along a railroad right-of-way.

- Committee substitute H-3 was adopted
- Sheltrown-2 was adopted
- SB 530 advanced to 3rd Reading
- SB 530 was passed [RC 82: 103 yes, 5 no]
- IE was ordered

HB 4675**(Sak)**

House Bill 4675 would amend the Insurance Code (MCL 500. 134 and 500.3104) to require the MCCA to comply with the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act.

Specifically, the business of the board would have to be conducted at a public meeting held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, and a writing prepared, owned, used, in the possession of, or retained by the board in the performance of an official function would be subject to the Freedom of Information Act as if the board were a public body under the act. House Bills 4675 and 4676 are tie-barred to one another, meaning that one can only take effect if they both do.

- Committee substitute H-1 was adopted
- Hune-2 was adopted
- Hune-3 was withdrawn
- Opsommer-4 was adopted
- Hoogendyke-5 was adopted
- HB 4675 advanced to 3rd Reading
- Sak substitute H-5 was adopted
- HB 4675 was passed [RC 90: 66 yes, 38 no]
- IE was not ordered [RC 91: 58 yes, 46 no]

HB 4678**(LeBlanc)**

House Bill 4678 would amend the Insurance Code (MCL 500.3104) to expand the membership of the board of directors of the MCCA from five members to nine members, adding three members representing the general public and one member representing insurance agents. The code currently requires the MCCA to have five directors and specifies that the directors must represent auto insurance companies contributing at least 40 percent of the total premiums to the MCCA. The commissioner of the Office of Financial and Insurance Services (OFIS) is an ex officio board member without a vote. (The bill would also increase the number of directors needed for a quorum from four to six and would increase from three to five the number of directors required to call a special meeting.)

- Hune-1 was adopted
- Opsommer-2 was adopted
- HB 4678 advanced to 3rd Reading
- HB 4678 was passed [RC 88: 62 yes, 46 no]
- IE was not ordered [RC 89: 61 yes, 47 no]

HB 5607**(Calley)**

This bill would allow disabled people who are unable to row or paddle to operate a vessel using an electric motor at a "slow-no wake" speed on all waterways of the state where the use of motors is otherwise prohibited by a marine law. To obtain a marine exemption certificate to override restrictions on motorboat use, disabled persons would need to present a physician's statement to a sheriff's department.

- HB 5607 advanced to 3rd Reading
- HB 5607 was passed [RC 83: 107 yes, 1 no]
- IE was ordered

HB 5734**(Warren)**

The bills (HB 5734-5736) would amend the Michigan Business Tax Act to make changes in several of the act's definitions with regards to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Reportedly, these changes will treat operations in Puerto Rico as operations outside of the United States and as foreign entities for purposes of the MBT. House Bill 5734 would amend the definition of "commercial domicile" in Chapter 2B (dealing financial institutions) to remove a reference to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

- HB 5734 advanced to 3rd Reading
- HB 5734 was passed [RC 84: 108 yes, 0 no]
- IE was ordered

HB 5735

(Wenke)

The bills (HB 5734-5736) would amend the Michigan Business Tax Act to make changes in several of the act's definitions with regards to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Reportedly, these changes will treat operations in Puerto Rico as operations outside of the United States and as foreign entities for purposes of the MBT. House Bill 5735 would amend the definition of "foreign operating entity" in Chapter 1 (Definitions). Currently, that definition refers in part to firms with substantial operations "outside the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, any territory or possession of the United States," or political subdivisions of any of those. The bill would instead refer to operations "outside the United States, the District of Columbia, any territory or possession of the United States except the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico," or political subdivisions of any of those. The underlining represents the new language.

- HB 5735 advanced to 3rd Reading
- HB 5735 was passed [RC 85: 108 yes, 0 no]
- IE was ordered

HB 5736

(Mayes)

The bills (HB 5734-5736) would amend the Michigan Business Tax Act to make changes in several of the act's definitions with regards to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. Reportedly, these changes will treat operations in Puerto Rico as operations outside of the United States and as foreign entities for purposes of the MBT. House Bill 5736 would amend the definition of "state" in Chapter 1 to exclude the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

- HB 5736 advanced to 3rd Reading
- HB 5736 was passed [RC 86: 108 yes, 0 no]
- IE was ordered

HB 5509

(Mayes)

Update farm produce insurance program.

- HB 5509 advanced to 3rd Reading
- HB 5509 was passed [RC 87: 108 yes, 0 no]
- IE was ordered